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Serial Number: 10/071,301

Group Art Unit: 1772

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## **LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (Original): A polarizing plate comprising a polyvinyl alcohol-based polarizing film containing a dichroic substance and a transparent protective film bonded to at least one surface of the polyvinyl alcohol-based polarizing film through an adhesive layer, wherein

the adhesive layer comprises a water-soluble crosslinking agent capable of crosslinking a vinyl alcohol-based polymer.

- 2. (Original): The polarizing plate according to claim 1, wherein the adhesive layer further comprises the vinyl alcohol-based polymer.
- 3. (Original): The polarizing plate according to claim 1, wherein the water-soluble crosslinking agent is selected from the group consisting of boric acid, borax, glutaraldehyde, melamine and oxalic acid.
- 4. (Original): The polarizing plate according to claim 1, wherein the transparent protective film comprises a polymer selected from the group consisting of an acetate-based resin, a polyester-based resin, a polyethersulfone-based resin, a polycarbonate-based resin, a polyamide-based resin, a polyimide-based resin, a polyolefine-based resin and an acrylic resin.
- 5. (Original): The polarizing plate according to claim 1, wherein the transparent protective film is a triacetylcellulose film having a saponified surface.



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6. (Currently amended): An optical member of a laminate made by providing at least one additional optical layer on a polarizing plate comprising a polyvinyl alcohol-based polarizing film containing a dichroic substance and a transparent protective film bonded to at least one surface of the polyvinyl alcohol-based polarizing film through an adhesive layer, wherein the adhesive layer comprises a water-soluble crosslinking agent capable of crosslinking a vinyl alcohol-based polymer, and wherein the additional optical layer is other than a polarizing layer and is applied to at least one of the polarizing film side and the transparent protective film side of the polarizing plate.

- 7. (Original): The optical member according to claim 6, wherein the additional optical layer is at least one selected from the group consisting of a reflective layer, a semitransparent reflective layer, a brightness-enhanced plate and a retardation plate.
- 8. (Original): A liquid crystal display comprising a liquid crystal cell and a polarizing plate arranged on at least one surface of the liquid crystal cell, wherein the polarizing plate comprises a polyvinyl alcohol-based polarizing film containing a dichroic substance and a transparent protective film bonded to at least one surface of the polyvinyl alcohol-based polarizing film through an adhesive layer, where the adhesive layer comprises a water-soluble crosslinking agent capable of crosslinking a vinyl alcohol-based polymer.
- 9. (New): The polarizing plate of claim 1, wherein the adhesive layer is formed from a solution containing at least 0.1 wt% of the water-soluble crosslinking agent.
- 10. (New): The polarizing plate of claim 9, wherein the solution contains at least 10 wt% of the water-soluble crosslinking agent.



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11. (New): The polarizing plate of claim 1, wherein the adhesive layer has a thickness of at most 0.5 microns.

- 12. (New): The polarizing plate of claim 11, wherein the adhesive layer has a thickness of at least 0.02 microns.
- 13. (New): A process of producing a polarizing plate comprising a polyvinyl alcohol-based polarizing film containing a dichroic substance and a transparent protective film bonded to at least one surface of the polyvinyl alcohol-based polarizing film, comprising:

applying an adhesive layer comprising a water-soluble crosslinking agent capable of crosslinking a vinyl alcohol-based polymer to the polarizing film; and

bonding the transparent protective film to the polarizing film.

14. (New): Polarizing plate obtained by the process of claim 13.